

REMARKS

Preliminarily, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge and accept the formal drawings filed on November 25, 2003 (two (2) sheets, Figs. 1-2).

Claims 1, 3, 7 and 8 have been amended herewith. Upon entry of the above amendment, Claims 1-13 will be all the claims pending in the application.

In Claims 1 and 3, at line 6 of each, the phrase “at least one” has been deleted and replaced with “an.” In Claim 7, at line 2, the phrase “at least one” has been deleted “a.” In Claim 8, at line 2, the phrase “and/or” has been deleted and replaced with “or.”

Response to the Rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. It is asserted that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. It is specifically asserted that the specification does not support the recitation “at least one organic sulfur,” i.e., more than one organic sulfur, as recited in Claims 1, 3, 7 and 8.

Applicants' Response

As indicated above, Claims 1, 3, 7 and 8 have been amended to recite that the presently claimed compound comprises an organic sulfur. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-9 are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Patrick F. Gallagher", written over a horizontal line.

Patrick F. Gallagher
Registration No. 54,109

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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